

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PERMIAN BASIN  
IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 51.9315, TEXAS EDUCATION CODE –  
PROTECTED EXPRESSION ON CAMPUS

UT Permian Basin is committed to protect the expressive rights of persons guaranteed by the constitutions of the United States and of this state by (1) recognizing freedom of speech and assembly as central to the mission of institutions of higher education; and (2) ensuring that all persons may assemble peaceably on the campuses of institutions of higher education for expressive activities, including to listen to or observe the expressive activities of others.

The University of Texas System Board of Regents updated Regents' Rules and Regulations 40501, 80101, and 80103 to ensure that the common outdoor areas of UT Permian Basin are traditional public forums.

UT Permian Basin updated its policy detailing students' rights and responsibilities regarding expressive activities. The University of Texas System Board of Regents approved the policy on May 6, 2020 and it was in effect before the August 1, 2020 deadline. The policy complies with the requirements of Section 51.9315, Texas Education Code and is posted on UT Permian Basin's website at [https://www.utpb.edu/life-at-utpb/utpb\\_adm-02-300-speech,-expression,-assembly-1.pdf](https://www.utpb.edu/life-at-utpb/utpb_adm-02-300-speech,-expression,-assembly-1.pdf). The policy is made available to students during freshman and transfer student orientation and has been submitted for inclusion in UT Permian Basin's Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP).

UT Permian Basin developed procedures to train employees responsible for educating or disciplining students to ensure they understand the requirements of Section 51.9315, Texas Education Code and UT Permian Basin's internal policies.